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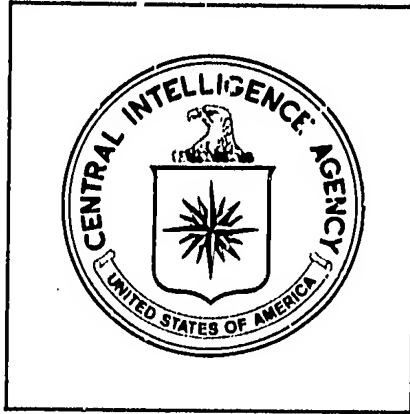
Middle East, Africa, South Asia

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STAFF NOTES:

Middle East Africa South Asia

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MIDDLE EAST - AFRICA - SOUTH ASIA

This publication is prepared for regional specialists in the Washington community by the Middle East - Africa Division, Office of Current Intelligence, with occasional contributions from other offices within the Directorate of Intelligence. Comments and queries are welcome. They should be directed to the authors of the individual articles.

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South Yemen

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Stability Assessment

[REDACTED] South Yemen's ruling National Front is in firm control of the country as it moves toward the sixth party congress scheduled for later this month.

The military is the only domestic group capable of challenging the National Front, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]. Key army and air force positions have been filled by National Front members and dissidents have been purged from the armed forces. Moreover, Soviet advisers attached to the South Yemeni military probably could impede a coup because of their effective control of supplies. Anti-government feeling is reportedly higher in the army than the air force, but plotters would probably find it difficult to organize without their intentions becoming known to omnipresent government intelligence agents.

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South Yemeni exiles [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] have been largely ineffectual. Furthermore, the exiles--many of whom rely on tribal affiliations for cohesion--are viewed as anachronistic by most South Yemenis.

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The pressure of an external military threat would present the best chance for a basic change in the regime, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] in the event of a foreign attack that appeared to have a chance of success, discontented civilian and army elements would turn against the National Front. [REDACTED] such a scenario nearly developed in late 1972 when North Yemeni and South Yemeni forces clashed along the border. (SECRET NO FOREIGN DISSEM/NO DISSEM ABROAD/BACKGROUND USE ONLY/CONTROLLED DISSEM)

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Kenya-Ethiopia

Kenyatta Decides to Repair Relations

President Kenyatta appears to have gotten over his anger at the Ethiopian military rulers for their treatment of Haile Selassie and the mass executions in November. The Kenyan leader has taken steps to restore cooperation between the two countries that has been based on mutual security interests.

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[REDACTED] Nairobi intends to establish working contact with the Ethiopian government. [REDACTED] Kenya supports the territorial integrity of Ethiopia and favors continued US military aid for Ethiopia. 25X6

Last October, Kenyatta refused to meet with an Ethiopian military goodwill delegation and instructed his top associates not to see the Ethiopians; however, working level Kenyan defense officials met with the delegation. A Kenyan official said in December that Nairobi was concerned over reports of the radical orientation of the Ethiopian ruling group and was closely studying its relationship with Addis Ababa.

Kenya and Ethiopia signed a secret mutual defense pact in 1963 that was primarily designed to protect both countries from Somali military attacks or subversion instigated by Somali-backed guerrillas. The Mogadiscio government claims large parts of Ethiopia and Kenya inhabited by Somali-speaking nomads.

The treaty provides for regular consultations between defense officials and cooperation in security matters. Prior to the military takeover in Addis Ababa in February 1974, Ethiopian and Kenyan officials met periodically. At times during the 1960s Kenyan and Ethiopian field commanders in areas adjacent to Somalia coordinated operations against dissident Somali tribesmen.

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The small, poorly-equipped Kenyan garrison presently stationed in the Somali border area probably could cope with small scale guerrilla attacks, but would be no match for the Soviet-equipped Somali army. The Kenyans have always counted on the likelihood that any Somali military action in the area would be concentrated on Ethiopia, Mogadiscio's major adversary. (SECRET NO FOREIGN DISSEM)

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[REDACTED] (143-7228)

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